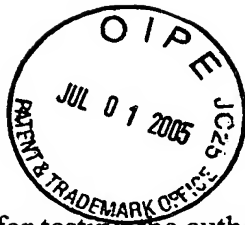


DE 199 23 885



Title: testing unit for testing the authenticity of documents

Abstract:

The invention relates to a testing unit for testing the authenticity of documents, in particular of passes, banknotes, checks, check- and credit cards, stamps and of documents provided with security elements, with beams of light with light sources for visible light and for UV-light and with illumination within the testing device.

The problem of the invention is to provide a testing device for testing the authenticity of documents by means of light beams, which allows two verify all types of national and international documents for all possible security elements in order to exclude falsifications with high security.

According to the invention in the testing device several light sources are provided with several pluggable individual modules. The visual testing takes place by means of a visible white light source, by means of UV-light from at least 2 UV-light sources with the power of each at max 8 W, wherein at least one UV-light source is provided beneath the object carrier, with one light source for the generation of polarised light, and with an if needed switchable light source for a separately provided adjustable lens. All light sources are individually or jointly switchable. The light sources are additionally provided shielded towards the observer.

The testing device can be used by customs, customs personnel, police and other institutions that test documents for authenticity.